Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CU-02 IGA-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06 /043 W ------030211 114751/72-61

R 021459Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY BISSAU TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0246

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAID PU

SUBJECT: PEACE CORPS AND GUINEA-BISSAU

- 1. AT RECENT MEETING BETWEEN CHARGE AND TOP OFFICIALS EDUCATION COMMISSARIAT INCLUDING VICE COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR SECONDARY EDUCATION, INTEREST WAS EXPRESSED IN U.S. ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA-BISSAU'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION PROGRAM. PROVISION OF ENGLISH TEACHERS WAS SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED.
- 2. CHARGE REPLIED THAT THIS WAS INDEED POSSIBLE AS WE HAD ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS IN MANY AFRICAN COUNTRIES. BEFORE GOING ANY FURTHER WITH GOGB, PLEASE ADVISE IF PEACE CORPS INTERESTED AND CAPABLE MOUNTING MINOR EFFORT HERE BEGINNING NEXT SCHOOL YEAR (OCTOBER 1977) IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING. IF SO, WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING HOW SOON, SOMEONE FROM PEACE

CORPS CAN VISIT TO WORK OUT PROGRAM WITH GOGB. FYI: EDUCATION COMMISSSARIAT PLANNING EXERCISE FOR 77/78 SCHOOL YEAR TAKES PLACE LATE MARCH EARLY APRIL.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES THIS PRELIMINARY INDICATION OF INTEREST REPRESENTS PROGRESS IN OUR EFFORT HERE TO DISPELL RESERVOIR OF SUSPICION WITH WHICH WE STILL REGARDED BY MANY IN GOGB AND WOULD WELCOME ESTABLISHMENT PEACE CORPS IN GUINEA-BISSAU. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DECISION TO INVITE PEACE CORPS WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO BE MADE AT HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOGB BUT WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO ASSURE EDUCATION COMMISSARIAT THAT WE CAN RESPOND FAVORABLY SHOULD A FORMAL REQUEST BE MADE. CURRAN

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